



Tulalip Charitable Contributions Funds Distribution Report

NAME OF AGENCY: YMCA/School's Out & Feed Your Brain

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GENERAL GOALS: To inspire, nurture, and strengthen culturally vibrant communities through youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility.

SPECIFIC USE FOR THIS AWARD:

We value caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility, and everything we do stems from this. Our staff and volunteers are kids, parents, grandparents, neighbors, and local leaders who are all personally committed to understanding what our neighborhoods need. Together, we use our knowledge to develop stronger, more integrated communities, provide support for people and families, and promote positive change overall.

For more information regarding the specific uses of the award, see the following pages from the YMCA School's Out Program.

2014 Feed Your Brain Executive Summary

What is Feed Your Brain?

The goal of Feed Your Brain is to increase the number of children who participate in literacy enrichment activities and receive nutritious meals during the summer in rural communities where the poverty level is high and the choice and supply of summer programs are limited. To work towards this goal, grants of up to \$5,000 are awarded to schools or community-based organizations in rural areas that run summer programs with a focus on literacy and enrichment activities while participating in the Summer Food Service Program. Since 2001, School's Out Washington has awarded over 185 Feed Your Brain grants to schools, community organizations and/or tribes providing a total of over 20,000 children in with summer literacy activities and serving over 390,000 free meals.



Feed Your Brain 2014 Program Impact



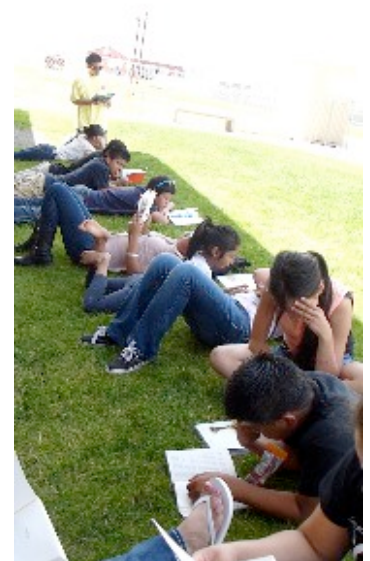
In 2014, School's Out Washington awarded 10 grants of up to \$5,000 to programs totaling \$46,343. With 25 applicants and limited funding, we decided to prioritize those who most depended on our grant to operate a program in the summer. The \$5,000 Feed Your Brain grant made up 50-100% of the budget for all the programs we funded in 2014.

The 10 Feed Your Brain programs impacted a total of 979 young people through the literacy and meal programs. Feed Your Brain programs provided literacy and enrichment activities to 618 children and youth. Though we funded fewer programs in 2014 than in 2013, we

saw an increase in total number of children served in both literacy and meal programs, and almost as many children in the literacy program. Children and youth recorded a total of nearly 5,000 hours spent reading and writing during the summer program and 501 children kept reading logs and a combined total of over 8,100 books read.

In line with our racial equity focus, we continued to serve a high number of youth of color this summer, particularly Latino/Hispanic youth with over half of all kids served from this demographic group. The demographic breakdown of kids served is: 3% Native American/Alaska Native, 1% Asian, 1% African-American, 53% Hispanic or Latino, %35 White, and 7% Multi-Racial.

For the 9th year, we required programs to administer the San Diego Quick Assessment evaluation tool which assesses the change in children's reading levels over time. Results from this assessment showed compelling data on the importance of summer programs in helping children and youth stay engaged and learning during



the summer months. The evaluation results showed similar results from the independent and frustrated reading levels of 95-98% of students either maintaining or improving by at least one grade level in reading. The evaluation data combined with narrative reports demonstrate that the Feed Your Brain project plays an instrumental role in funneling needed resources into rural communities that ultimately help kids return to school in the fall ready to learn.



“One boy came the first day and said he could not read or write and needed help. He started with a few sight words, consonants and vowel sounds. Now, he is able to take a book and read with cadence using picture clues, context clues and beginning phonetic clues. He was even confident to share a reading.”- La Iglesia de la Resurreccion

“H.D, a four year old, started the summer being able to write only a few letters of the alphabet but through daily work with staff, volunteers and the older children in the program helping her, she ended the summer able to write her own name, the names of all her immediate family members and we even witnessed her proudly write a short sentence unaided, which she gleefully presented to her mother at pick up time. Her mother was visibly startled and exclaimed she had no idea H.D. knew how to do that.” – Jefferson County YMCA, Pt. Townsend, Quilcene and Chimacum

Summer Meals

The Feed Your Brain project also aims to address hunger in high-poverty rural communities of our state by requiring all grantees to run the Summer Feeding Service Program through USDA. Children and youth in the 10 funded communities had access to at least 2 free meals 4 days/week for a minimum of 4 weeks that programs were required to operate. The 10 programs served a total of over 26,600 meals over the entire summer, an increase of 4,000 from last summer despite only funding 10 versus 13 programs. This is great news that programs are reaching youth not only in their literacy summer program but also in the community to access the free, summer meals.

For the past several years, School’s Out Washington has participated as a member of a statewide summer meals workgroup. Through this partnership led by the Children’s Alliance, School’s Out Washington has worked beyond the Feed Your Brain project to increase access to and participation in the summer meal program. Members of the workgroup have also served as resources for outreach and targeted recruitment of Feed Your Brain grant applicants.

Training & Technical Assistance

We again partnered with Page Ahead, a Washington State non-profit organization that provides new books and develops reading activities that empower at-risk children. Page Ahead provided each Feed Your Brain program with four new books per student served that were age-appropriate and available in Spanish as requested by the program. The Feed Your Brain programs were incredibly grateful for the books, to which they attributed much of the academic success and enjoyment of reading experienced by students to the addition of books.



“The Feed Your Brain team was exceedingly helpful. Our site was visited by Brooke from Page Ahead during the first week and she provided multiple suggestions for the classroom activities and the bicycle activities. The program was modified so I could implement and execute many of the recommendations.” – Wahluke Junior High, Mattawa

For the second year we contracted with Page Ahead to provide additional technical assistance through a Summer Reading Specialist focused on lesson planning and curriculum development for the literacy programming. We selected five programs to participate in this enhanced technical assistance

based on their Feed Your Brain grant application and an identified need for assistance with developing and implementing a literacy-based curriculum for the summer. The five programs were: Wahluke Junior High in Mattawa, Jefferson County YMCA, La Iglesia Episcopal de la Resurreccion, Youth and Family Link, and North Counties Family Services.

Community Partnerships

Every year, we encourage Feed Your Brain programs to foster partnerships to bring in additional resources and support programs. This year, Feed Your Brain programs established 105 local partnerships with a variety of community resources including local libraries, food banks, parks and recreation, colleges/universities, newspapers, businesses, sports teams, and wide array of other community support.

“Many of the students asked me through the last school year if we were doing the Garden Reading Club again and if they could be in it. One girl asked me every day for the last month of school and even brought in a plant in a paper cup to put into the garden. I was relieved when the grant was approved so I didn’t have to tell her ‘No’.”

-Gess Elementary School, Chewelah



2014 Feed Your Brain program in White Salmon, WA

For more information about Feed Your Brain, contact Clifford Armstrong III at carmstrong@schoolsoutwashington.org or at (206) 336-6915 or visit our website at www.schoolsoutwashington.org.

2014 Feed Your Brain Sites

Children's Home Society of Washington	Walla Walla
Gess Elementary School	Chewelah
Grand Coulee Dam School District	Coulee Dam
Jefferson County YMCA	Chimacum
La Iglesia Episcopal de la Resurreccion	Mt. Vernon
North Counties Family Services	Darrington
Wahluke Junior High	Mattawa
United General Hospital	Concrete
Whitson Elementary School	White Salmon
Youth and Family Link	Kelso